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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/826,183	04/04/2001	Ruggero Maria Santilli	3293.004A	9175
24040	7590	05/04/2004	EXAMINER	
MASON LAW, PL 17757 US HWY 19 N. CLEARWATER, FL 33764			TOOMER, CEPHIA D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1714	

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/826,183	SANTILLI, RUGGERO MARIA
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Cephia D. Toomer	1714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11, 13-50, 52-62, 64, 66-89, 91, 95-98 and 100-111 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 102-111 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11, 13-50, 52-62, 64, 66-89, 91, 95-98, 100 and 101 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the amendment filed January 28, 2004 in which claims 12, 51, 63, 65, 90, 92-94 and 99 were canceled and claims 102-111 were added.

Election/Restrictions

1. Newly submitted claim1-2-111 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: applicant is claiming an apparatus to increase the density and energy content of a fuel. The apparatus as claimed is not an obvious apparatus for making the product and the apparatus can be used for making a different product, such as hydrogen.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 102-111 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-11, 13-50, 52-62, 64, 66-89, 91, 95-98 and 100-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the disclosed invention is inoperative and therefore lacks utility. All of the instant claims are drawn to a chemical composition comprising a substantially

pure population of magnecules composed of clusters of one of a molecule, a dimer and an atom and combinations thereof. At page 3, last paragraph through page 4, lines 1-17, lines 1-17 applicant states:

The exposure of a gas at atmospheric pressure to an electric arc may also create magnecules. They are generated, however, in such small numbers as to be undetectable. Accordingly, these magnecules have no industrial or consumer value such as those that may be created by the arc disclosed in an unrelated invention described in U.S. Patent No. 5,487,874 to Gibboney Jr. Therefore, the exposure of a molecular species electric arc leaves the original molecular species mostly unchanged in the sense that the species remains an essentially pure population of conventional molecules with only traces of magnecules. Accordingly, only when a gas is forced to pass at very high pressure through a restricted area surrounding an electric arc of a PlasmaArcFlow Reactor of the present invention can the chemical species of magnecules be produced in which a chemical species of molecules is turned into an essentially pure population of magnecules. Therefore, a well sustained pressure of about 100,000 psi is necessary, as well as other requirements discussed below, to achieve the formation of an essentially pure population of magnecules, such as that created in the PlasmaArcFlow Reactor. This sustained high pressure and other

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requirements, however, are not taught, disclosed or suggested by Gibboney.

It is clear from known principles of physics and chemistry that the instant compositions cannot exist according to conventional theory. No assertions of substantially pure population of magnecules have been recognized or verified by the scientific community.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1-11, 13-50, 52-62, 64, 66-89, 91, 95-98 and 100-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The specification does not enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make or use a substantially pure population of magnecules, in that it would require undue experimentation to do so.

Factors to be considered in determining whether a disclosure would require undue experimentation include, (1) the breadth of the claims, (2) the nature of the

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invention, (3) the state of the prior art, (4) the level of one of ordinary skill, (5) the level of predictability in the art, (6) the amount of direction provided by the inventor, (7) the existence of working examples and (8) the quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure. In re Wands, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

(1) the breadth of the claims

Since all of the claims encompass a substantially pure population of magnecules, and it has been shown hereinbefore with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 for inoperability that such cannot exist, the claims are not enabled. The question of whether a specification provides an enabling disclosure under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and whether an application satisfies the utility requirement of §101 are closely related. Process Control Corp. v. HydReclaim Corp., 190 F.3d 1350, 1358, 52 USPQ2d 1029, 1034 (Fed. Cir. 1999). To satisfy the enablement requirement of 112, first paragraph, a patent application must adequately disclose the claimed invention so as to enable a person skilled in the art to practice the invention at the time the application was filed without undue experimentation. Enzo Biochem, Inc. v. Calgene, Inc., 188 F.3d 1362, 1371-72, 52 USPQ2d 1129, 1136 (Fed. Cir. 1999). The utility requirement of §101 mandates that the invention be operable to achieve useful results. Brooktree Corp v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., 977 F.2d 1555, 1571, 24 USPQ2d 1401, 1412 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Thus, if the claims in an application fail to meet the utility requirement because the invention is inoperative, they also fail to meet the enablement

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requirement because a person skill in the art cannot practice the invention. Process Control, 190 F.3d at 1358, 52 USPQ2d at 1034.

(2) the nature of the invention

As stated above, the vast majority of the scientific community has held the belief that a substantially pure population of magnecules is not attainable. Accordingly, the nature of the invention is such that it would be startling if it were operative, thus requiring greater detail and guidance than that found in the instant specification to provide enablement.

(3) the state of the prior art

There appears to be no prior art showing materials that qualify as a substantially pure population of magnecules.

(4) the level of one of ordinary skill

Since even the most highly skilled physicists and chemists would agree that according to conventional theory, the instant invention cannot be produced, the threshold of enablement is not met on pages 1-98 of the instant specification.

(5) the level of predictability in the art

It would be most unpredictable that a substantially pure population of magnecules have been produced, by the instant methods or otherwise. See the reasoning presented hereinbefore with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 for inoperability.

(6) the amount of direction provided by the inventor

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It is the examiner's position that applicant has not provided sufficient guidance throughout the specification to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the instant invention. The instant specification is devoid of direction and guidance necessary to enable the skilled artisan to identify or produce a substantially pure population of magnecules. While applicant generally alludes to "pure magnecules", applicant has not set forth any positive or specific process steps which would allow one of ordinary skill to produce these magnecules. It is the examiner's position that long and tedious trial and error would await any person skilled in the art reading applicant's specification and attempting to detect or produce a substantially pure population of magnecules.

(7) the existence of working examples and (8) the quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention

The quantum of proof required to establish enablement is inextricably linked with the degree of unpredictability of the relevant art.

The art of molecular clusters is an extremely unpredictable one. Small changes can result in dramatic changes in or loss of properties. The amount and type of examples necessary to support broad claims increases as the predictability of the art decreases. See In re Fisher, 166 USPQ 18, 24 and In re Angstadt and Griffen, 190 USPQ 214, 218. Claims broad enough to cover a large number of compositions that do not exhibit the desired properties fail to satisfy the requirements of 35 USC 112. See In re Cook, 169 USPQ 298, 302 and Cosden Oil v. American Hoechst, 214 USPQ 244,

262. Merely reciting a desired result does not overcome this failure. In re Corkill, 226 USPQ 1005, 1009.

It should be noted that at the time the invention was made, the theoretical mechanism of magnecules was not well understood. (This is still the case today). Accordingly, there appears to be little factual or theoretical basis for extending the scope of the claims much beyond the proportions and materials actually demonstrated in Gibboney (US 5,487,874). A "patent is not a hunting license. It is not a reward for the search, but a reward for its successful conclusion", Brenner v. Manson, 383 US 519, 148 USPQ 689.

Applicant is reminded that any evidence to be presented in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.131 or 1.132 should be submitted before final rejection in order to be considered timely.

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-11, 13-50, 52-62, 64, 66-89, 91, 95-98 and 100-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for the reasons of record, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant argues that ALL kind of molecules, dimers and atoms can form a magnecule without any restriction. Applicant argues that the role of the claims is not to enable one to reproduce the invention but rather to define the metes and bounds of the invention.

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The examiner respectfully disagrees. Claims that are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph are evaluated in the context of whether the claim is definite, i.e., whether the scope of the claim is clear to a hypothetical person possessing the ordinary level of skill in the art. The scope of the claims reads on every molecule, dimer and atom in existence. Applicant recites that the peak in the mass spec of these magnecules are unidentifiable. Are all unidentifiable peaks in a mass spec magnecules?

7. Applicant's affadavit is sufficient to overcome the 103(a) rejection over Richardson (US 6,229,656).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer whose telephone number is 571-272-1126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cephia D. Toomer
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1714

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